



# Effective Health Care

## Comparative Effectiveness of Core Needle Biopsy and Open Surgical Biopsy for Diagnosis of Breast Lesions

### Update Summary Document

## Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- The Comparative Effectiveness Review (CER) entitled, *Comparative Effectiveness of Core Needle Biopsy and Open Surgical Biopsy for Diagnosis of Breast Lesions* will go forward as an update.
- The protocol for this report will be posted on the Effective Health Care (EHC) Program Web site. To sign up for notification when this and other Effective Health Care (EHC) Program topics are posted, please go to <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/join-the-email-list1/>.

## Topic Description

**Title:** *Comparative Effectiveness of Core Needle Biopsy and Open Surgical Biopsy for Diagnosis of Breast Lesions (2009)*

- Key Questions:**
1. In women with a palpable or nonpalpable breast abnormality, what is the accuracy of different types of core-needle breast biopsy (CNB) compared with open biopsy for diagnosis?
  2. In women with a palpable or nonpalpable breast abnormality, what are the harms associated with different types of core-needle breast biopsy compared with open biopsy for diagnosis?
  3. How do open biopsy and various core-needle techniques differ in terms of patient preference, availability, costs, availability of qualified pathologist interpretations, and other factors that may influence choice of a particular technique?

## Considerations

- Since the publication of the 2010 systematic review entitled *Comparative Effectiveness of Core Needle Biopsy and Open Surgical Biopsy for Diagnosis of Breast Lesions*, numerous studies have been published. The availability of additional studies may change some of the conclusions in the original systematic review. For additional details please refer to the following EHC Program Update Surveillance Report: [http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/ehc/products/19/447/Radiotherapy\\_SurveillanceAssessment\\_20120919.pdf](http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/ehc/products/19/447/Radiotherapy_SurveillanceAssessment_20120919.pdf)
- Based on the availability of new information, this topic will move forward in form of an update to the CER